

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 18, 19, 30 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,594,062 to *Weder et al.*

Claims 18, 19, 30 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Incorporation of Photoluminescent Polarizers into Liquid Crystal Displays* that appeared in *Science* dated February 6, 1998 on pages 835-387 to *Weder et al.*

Claims 19, 20-22, 29, 30, 33-39, 43, 72-74 and 79 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either the *Weder et al ('062)* or *Weder et al (Science)*.

Claims 21, 23-25 and 75-78 stand allowable if rewritten into independent form.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Claims 18-25, 29, 30, 32-39, 43 and 72-81 are presently pending.

Claims 21, 23, 75 and 76, which have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter, have been rewritten in independent form.

Applicants respectfully traverse rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a).

Claims 80-81 have been added to further define the invention.

The Rejections under 102 and 103

Claims 18, 19, 30 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,594,062 to *Weder et al.* Claims 18, 19, 30 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Incorporation of Photoluminescent Polarizers into*
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Liquid Crystal Displays that appeared in *Science* dated February 6, 1998 on pages 835-837 to *Weder et al.* Claims 19, 20-22, 29, 30, 33-39, 43, 72-74 and 79 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either the *Weder et al ('062)* or *Weder et al (Science)*. Claims 21, 23-25 and 27-78 stand allowable if rewritten into independent form. Applicants respectfully note, and request clarification, that claim 21 is both rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and indicated as allowable if rewritten into independent form. Similarly, Applicants respectfully notes that claim 19 is rejected under both 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and 103(a). In any event, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the following reasons.

With respect to *Weder et al ('062)* and *Weder et al (Science)*, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections because neither *Weder et al ('062)* nor *Weder et al (Science)* teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 18, 30, and 32. Here, Applicants respectfully assert that neither *Weder et al ('062)* nor *Weder et al (Science)* disclose a combination comprising “a security item comprising at least one security element” as claimed. That is, *Weder et al ('062)* and *Weder et al (Science)* both disclose specific forms of **sheet polarizers** (*Weder et al ('062)*, col. 1, lines 29-44). These sheet polarizers are provided with specific sensitizers which act like harvesting systems in order to increase the overall efficiency (brightness) in that a high degree of polarization in emission and a high degree of polarization in their absorption is achieved (*Weder et al ('062)*, col. 3, lines 48-59). These sheet polarizers are disclosed in the context of flat **panel displays and similar display devices** (*Weder et al (Science)*, p.835, col. 1, first paragraph). Clearly in none of these documents is there any teaching or suggestion relating security. Furthermore, these sheet polarizers, as disclosed, could most certainly not be regarded as a security item in the sense of the present application, since they do not comprise at least one “security element” as claimed. That is, a sheet polarizer as described in the

applied art cannot be regarded as a security element. The sheet polarizers are full sheets which are certainly not security elements and which could not and would not be used to this end in the applications as envisaged in those documents of the state of the art.

Since both *Weder et al* ('062) and *Weder et al (Science)* do not disclose security items or security elements, clearly the subject matter of all the independent claims is new. Furthermore, there is no indication in any of the *Weder et al* disclosures, that a sheet polarizer according to *Weder et al* could be modified to a security element or to be used as a security element. None of the applied art disclose or render obvious security items having a security element as claimed. That is, Applicants respectfully assert that no element of *Weder et al* ('062) or *Weder et al (Science)* can be considered to be a security item or security element as claimed.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and 103(a) should be withdrawn. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 29, 33-39, 43, and 72-79 are allowable at least because of their dependence from one of independent claims 18, 30 and 32, as previously presented, and the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants' respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully Submitted,

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